

Application No. 10/656,590
Amdt. Dated May 24, 2007
Reply to Office action of March 22, 2007

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings replaces any previous drawings submitted.

Remarks

The new claims submitted reflect the same invention as the originally submitted claims. Applicant has tried to better describe the uniqueness of this invention in contrast to others with a similar intended purpose. The highly flared open-end of the cap provides robust gripping power to the retaining lip, which other caps simply do not have. This is extremely important for this invention; without adequate gripping power the cap simply falls off the grease zerk. No other cap has a flare such as this, simply because it is nearly impossible to manufacture due to molding tool restrictions. The flare also serves as a scraper, removing excess grease from the zerk when the cap is affixed to the zerk, and serves to keep the grease off the cap.

What is also unique to this invention is that there are no cuts or slits on the side of the cap. On some other caps, which have the same intended function as the cap in this application, there is a cut in the side of the cap. This provides a way to remove the cap from the molding tool. However, regarding the invention in this paper, a highly sophisticated production machine has been built which does not require any cuts or slits to remove the finished product from the mold. This is what makes this product so effective in its design; it is truly a one-piece cap with no modifications. Previously, no caps with large flares such as described in this application have been made, primarily because producing them is almost impossible without a seam or a cut.

I respectfully ask the Examiner to consider these remarks.